

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP00/06451

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

Int.Cl⁷ H01M 8/02, H01M 8/10

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

Int.Cl⁷ H01M 8/02, H01M 8/10

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
 Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1926-1996 Toroku Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1994-2000
 Kokai Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1971-2000 Jitsuyo Shinan Toroku Koho 1996-2000

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

JOIS
DIALOG (WPI/L)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|-----------|---|-----------------------|
| X Y | JP, 9-245802, A (Tanaka Kikinzoku Kogyo K.K. & Masahiro WATANABE & Stonehard Assoc. Inc.), 19 September, 1997 (19.09.97), Claims; Par. Nos. [0001] to [0027]; Figs. 1 to 6 (Family: none) | 1-3, 8 9-11 |
| X Y | JP, 9-245801, A (Tanaka Kikinzoku Kogyo K.K. & Masahiro WATANABE & Stonehard Assoc. Inc.), 19 September, 1997 (19.09.97), Claims; Par. Nos. [0001] to [0035]; Figs. 1 to 8 (Family: none) | 1-2, 4-8, 10 9, 11 |
| X Y | Microfilm of the specification and drawings annexed to the request of Japanese Utility Model Application No.38500/1990 (Laid-open No.130150/1991) (Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd.), 26 December, 1991 (26.12.91), claims of utility model; Fig. 2 (Family: none) | 1, 6-7 10-11 |
| Y | JP, 5-182671, A (Matsushita Electric Ind. Co., Ltd.), 23 July, 1993 (23.07.93), Claims; Par. Nos. [0001] to [0011]; Figs. 1 to 5 | 9 |

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

| | |
|---|--|
| * Special categories of cited documents: | "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention |
| "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance | "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone |
| "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date | "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art |
| "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) | "&" document member of the same patent family |
| "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means | |
| "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed | |

Date of the actual completion of the international search
19 December, 2000 (19.12.00)Date of mailing of the international search report
16 January, 2001 (16.01.01)Name and mailing address of the ISA/
Japanese Patent Office

Authorized officer

Facsimile No.

Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP00/06451

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages (Family: none) | Relevant to claim No. |
|-----------|--|-----------------------|
| Y | JP, 7-183035, A (Matsushita Electric Ind. Co., Ltd.), 21 July, 1995 (21.07.95), Claims; Par. Nos. [0001] to [0026], [0063] to [0067]; Figs. 1 to 8 (Family: none) | 9 |
| Y | JP, 8-96813, A (Tanaka Kikinzoku Kogyo K.K. & Masahiro WATANABE & Stonehard Assoc. Inc.), 12 April, 1996 (12.04.96), Claims; Par. Nos. [0001] to [0027]; Figs. 1 to 4 (Family: none) | 9 |
| A | JP, 10-189004 (Tokyo Gas K.K.), 21 July, 1998 (21.07.98), (Family: none) | 1-11 |